

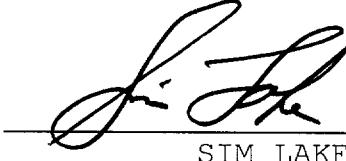
IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, §
§
Plaintiff, §
§
v. § CRIMINAL ACTION NO. H-08-146
§
§
ELISA IDALIA CASTILLO, §
REG. NO. 67003-179, §
§
Defendant. §

ORDER

The defendant has requested court-appointed counsel to assist her in filing a petition for a writ of habeas corpus. Habeas corpus is a civil action. There is no constitutional right to the assistance of counsel in such proceedings in federal court. Callins v. Johnson, 89 F.3d 210, 212 (5th Cir. 1996), citing Pennsylvania v. Finley, 107 S.Ct. 1990, 1993 (1987); see also Matchett v. Dretke, 380 F.3d 844, 849 (5th Cir. 2004). The court is not persuaded by the arguments in defendant's request. Accordingly, the request (Docket Entry No. 257) is **DENIED**.

SIGNED at Houston, Texas, on this 6th day of February, 2012.



SIM LAKE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE